

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS VA St. Louis Health Care System 915 North Grand Blvd St. Louis, MO 63106-4199 (314) 652-4100

VA St. Louis Health Care System

Social Work Service MSW Concentration Internship Program

<u>Process Overview</u> Academic Year Fall 21- Spring 22

The application period for academic year Fall 2021-Spring 2022 internships is January 18, 2021 through February 22, 2021.

Visit our website for application materials https://www.stlouis.va.gov/careers/index.asp

Students may submit the application materials to the VA Social Work office (314) 289-6391 via mail to 915 North Grand Blvd., St. Louis, MO 63106 or e-mail to the department secretary Jacqueline.Owens2@va.gov. Applications will be accepted only during this application period. The required application documents include program application, college transcripts, graduate school or professional writing sample [not to exceed 1-2 pages], and a letter of evaluation from a School of Social Work graduate school professor.

Application materials will be reviewed, and applicants will be contacted by February 26, 2021 and informed if they have been selected for an interview. Those applicants selected for consideration will have an interview or a series of interviews, which are tentatively scheduled for March 3, 2021 and March 4, 2021. The candidates will be informed by March 19, 2021 if they are accepted for an internship after a second interview with the Field Instructor assigned. These dates are projected at this time and subject to change, though will be within this time frame.

Internships require the full academic year of Fall-Spring. The intern schedules during these semesters typically require two and a half standard business days, for a 20-hr week. Available tours will be determined by Field Placement and Field Instructor. The schedule is dependent upon the program to which the intern is assigned. Weekend or evening hours are not available at this time. Intern assignments are made by the VA staff and available Field Instructors for that academic year. Treatment settings and programs that are available for internships vary from year to year.

Those selected to intern with VA Social Work Service will need to complete several additional requirements, a few of which are: complete additional agency documents, provide fingerprints to allow VA to conduct police and security background checks, a physical and obtain VA computer clearance and agency identification. This list is not all inclusive, and several of these and other steps must be met in prescribed sequential order. This necessitates that the prospective intern will have some availability to come to the VA for several hours on more than one appointment day during the summer months.

Applicants must submit all required materials and documents and meet necessary timelines. If at any time during the process the applicant, candidate or intern is no longer able to meet the requirements, the intern may be withdrawn from consideration.

Prospective interns will also need to be available for three days of agency and department orientation, which is anticipated the first or third weekend in August and run Monday through Wednesday. The dates will be announced in Spring 2021.

Historically, there have been modest stipends available for students, yet they are limited. The approval of these funds occurs annually at the national level and that decision may not be made until after interns are accepted or have begun their internship. This potential benefit will be reviewed with those students who are accepted for internship. It is recommended that student applicants do not base their decision to apply to VA St. Louis Health Care System for Social Work Internship on this potential benefit.

VA St. Louis Health Care System Social Work Service welcomes applicants with disabilities and does not discriminate on any grounds.

Related Documents:
Social Work Internship Application
Faculty Reference